

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

VOLUME XVI, NUMBER 14

WASHINGTON, D. C.

DECEMBER 16, 1946

Peace Sought For Palestine

Jews and Arabs Still Clash as Major Powers Strive to Solve Problem

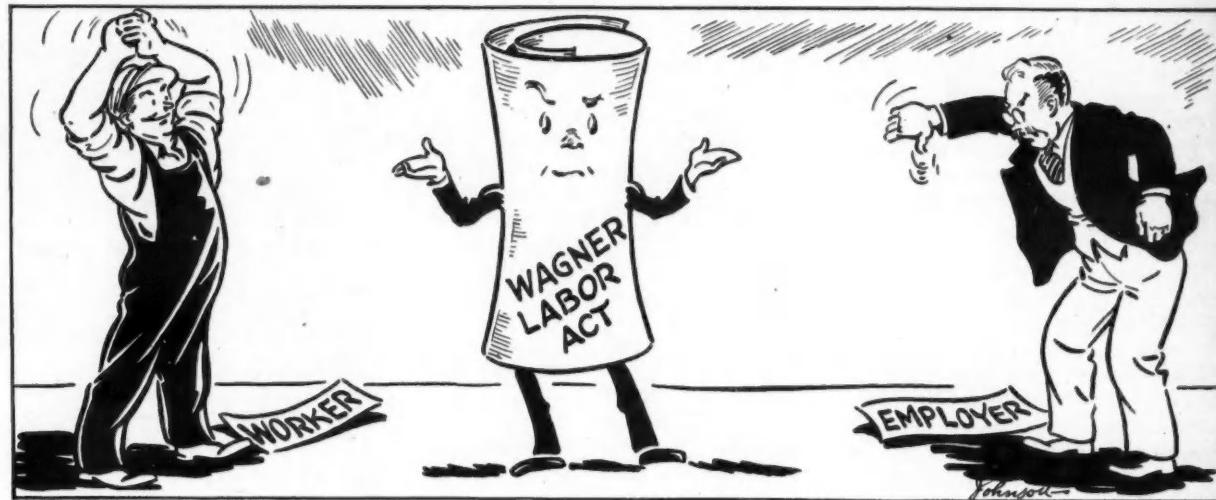
PALESTINE is neither a big country nor a rich one. Located at the eastern end of the Mediterranean, it is about the size of our state of Maryland. A good part of its territory is sun-baked desert, flanked by barren mountains. Yet this little strip of land has been an historic battleground.

Today, it is the scene of a bitter, three-way struggle. Ever since the end of the war, Jews, Arabs, and Britons have been locked in conflict over the problem of Jewish immigration to Palestine. Although all kinds of solutions have been proposed, these three groups are no nearer agreement now than when they started.

The Jews want large numbers of European refugees of their faith to come to Palestine. The Arabs are violently opposed to the idea. The British, who were given authority to supervise Palestine as a "mandate" by the League of Nations, simply want an arrangement which will bring peace to the Middle East and safeguard British interests there.

Britain insists that no more Jews shall enter Palestine until a compromise acceptable to all has been worked out. But neither Jews nor Arabs are content to leave it at that. Many European Jews have been trying to enter Palestine secretly. The Arabs, meanwhile, are strongly resisting the efforts to enlarge Palestine's Jewish population.

Naturally, this has meant trouble. There have been riots, bombings, and (Concluded on page 6)



DRAWING FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

New Labor Laws Proposed

Efforts Will be Made in Congress this Winter to Amend Wagner Act and To Establish Machinery for the Peaceful Settlement of Labor Disputes

WHEN Congress convenes on January 3, labor legislation will receive immediate attention. There is nation-wide concern over this problem because of the fact that 1946 has been the worst strike year in history. There is widespread demand that the National Labor Relations Act, popularly known as the Wagner Act, be amended and that something be done to check strikes which are so dangerous to American prosperity.

The Republicans will have a majority in both the Senate and the House of Representatives when Congress meets, and leaders of that party favor important changes in our labor laws. President Truman is also working on the problem and will make proposals in his address to Congress. Measures suggested by the President and Republican leaders will, of course, meet

stiff opposition, and sharp debate upon labor issues may be expected. Much of the discussion will center around amendments to the Wagner Labor Act.

The Wagner law was passed in 1935. Its chief purpose was to give workers the right to join labor unions and to compel employers to recognize and deal with the unions.

Workers were supposed to have had this right before the Wagner Act was passed, but in actual practice they often found it very hard to organize and to maintain their unions. In many cases employers dismissed workers who joined a union. If a man gained prominence in a union and became an effective leader, the employer might fire him.

The employers found other ways to discourage union organization. Some-

times they advanced men who did not belong to unions and held down those who were union members. An employer might form what was called a "company union," composed of the members of his own plant. He would then refuse to deal with the national unions which had members not only in his own plant but in other companies as well. It was much easier for him to gain control of his company union than of an outside labor organization.

The Wagner Act outlawed company unions. It guaranteed by law the right of workers to organize and to bargain with employers about wages, hours, and conditions of employment through whatever union they chose. Employers were forbidden to dismiss a man because of his membership in a union or to punish in any way an employee because of his union activities. The employer, under this law, cannot even discuss with his workers the advantages or disadvantages of union membership.

To enforce the provisions of the Wagner law, a National Labor Relations Board was established. It conducts elections among workers to see which unions they want to represent them. In each plant or industry, the union favored by a majority of the employees speaks for all of them. The employer is obliged to negotiate with this union concerning wages, hours, and other working conditions. He cannot talk such problems over with non-union workers, and cannot make contracts except through the union.

(Concluded on page 2)



Walter E. Myer

UN Takes Long Step Forward

By Walter E. Myer

WE approach the Christmas season this year with brighter hopes for the attainment of Peace on Earth and Good Will Toward Men than we have had at any time since the end of the war. The ice jam which for months has blocked progress toward peace settlements and toward the reduction of armaments seems to be breaking and the way appears to be opening for constructive action by the United Nations.

The best news we have heard since the end of the war came a week and a half ago when it was reported that Russia would support a strong and apparently effective plan for arms reduction and for the elimination of atomic bombs and other recently devised weapons of mass destruction.

During previous UN negotiations over disarmament, Russia's position had been

doubtful. The Soviet government had advocated agreements to limit armaments and to outlaw the use of atomic bombs in warfare. It had even agreed that there must be some form of inspection by an international authority to see to it that the rules about the production of atomic and other weapons were being obeyed.

But Russia did not seem willing to support a strong inspection plan. Her attitude on this point was considered very discouraging, since the success of controlling atomic weapons and armaments in general will depend largely upon how well and impartially the work of inspection is carried on. Rules prohibiting the manufacture of atomic bombs, for example, will amount to nothing if any nation has the power to keep inspectors out. Any of the Big Five nations might do this, however, and might prevent an effective inquiry into what it was doing if it maintained the veto power.

The United States, Great Britain, and a number of other nations have insisted, therefore, that the veto power should be abolished in the case of questions relating to the inspection of atomic plants and other armaments. Russia opposed this suggestion for quite a while.

Recently, however, Russia changed her position. Foreign Minister Molotov, in an address to a United Nations Committee, said that no nation should have the power to veto a decision by

(Concluded on page 8)

NOTICE

The next issue of *The American Observer* will appear after the Christmas holidays and will be dated January 6, 1947. We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Wagner Act

(Concluded from page 1)

If the union insists upon a "closed shop," and if the employer feels obliged to accept this plan, it is established. Under the closed shop plan, no worker can be employed in a plant or industry if he does not belong to or join the union favored by the majority of employees.

The Wagner Act unquestionably has made it easier for workers to organize into unions. At the time the law was passed, there were 4 million members of labor unions in the United States. Now there are 14 million. This rapid growth has not resulted wholly from the Wagner Act, but this law has had much to do with making unions strong.

Most people agree with the main purpose of the Wagner Act. Very few are calling for its outright repeal. The great majority of Americans feel that employees should be protected in the right to form unions. They say that workers should be freely permitted to choose the unions which are to represent them, and that employers should deal with these unions in deciding upon wages and hours and other conditions of employment.

Too Much Power?

Many argue, however, that the Wagner Act gives the unions too much power. They say that certain provisions of this law are unfair to employers as well as to many workers, and that changes should be made. These are some of the important amendments which are being proposed and which will soon be debated in Congress:

1. *Closed shop.* It is argued that a worker has as good a right *not to belong* to a union as he has *to belong* to it; that every worker should be entirely free to decide what to do about membership; that no man should be refused employment because he does not belong to a union. The Wagner law, it is contended, should be amended so as to prevent unions from forcing employers to establish closed shops.

Those who oppose such a change in the law and favor the closed shop reply that if a majority of the workers want to unionize and deal with

the employer through a union, all the workers should be obliged to belong to the union. If part of the workers are union men and other nonunion, it is contended, there will be constant quarreling, and smooth relations cannot be maintained.

2. *Obligations of the unions.* Critics of the Wagner law say that it prevents employers from acting unfairly toward workers, but does not compel workers to be equally fair in their dealings with employers. The law should be changed, it is said, so as to provide punishment for unions that violate their agreements with employers. It is argued further that if the members of a union have no complaint against their employer, they should not be permitted to strike in sympathy with some other union which is engaged in a labor dispute. Employers should also be protected, it is contended, against strikes which do not involve them but which take place because of disputes between competing unions.

Friends of the Wagner Act say that it is not necessary to provide additional protection for employers against unions which do not live up to the terms of their contracts covering wages, hours, and other working conditions. When such contracts are broken, it is said, employers can take their cases to court.

3. *Freedom of the employer.* Under the present law, as we have pointed out, an employer may not advise his employees on the question of whether they should belong to a union. He may not express his opinion on such an issue. He may not condemn the activities of the unions. Employees, on the other hand, are not limited in this way. They can talk freely against an employer. It is argued that the employers should be given greater freedom of expression, or else that the freedom of workers should be curtailed.

Against this proposal is the argument that the employer is in a powerful position in relation to his workers; that justice requires a limitation of his influence over his employees; that this is necessary in order to insure a fair balance between the powers of employers and workers.

These, in brief, are among the big



HARRIS & EWING
SENATOR ROBERT WAGNER of New York led the movement for the National Labor Relations Act in 1935. This law, often referred to as the Wagner Act, is a source of national controversy.

issues which have developed over the Wagner Act. Most people agree that before this law was passed, employers were too powerful in relation to workers. They were strong enough to break unions, to hold down wages, and to deal with workers about as they pleased. Many employers were fair and did not abuse their powers, but labor was too weak to defend itself effectively against unscrupulous employers.

Many people think, however, that the pendulum has now swung too far in the other direction. They say that, under the Wagner Act, labor has become too powerful in relation to employers. They argue that the unions are in a position to dictate to employers as well as to the government of our nation. Unions are now abusing their power, it is contended, just as employers formerly did.

The Rebuttal

Those who are opposed to making changes in the Wagner Act deny this assertion. They say that the balance of power between workers and management is now fair. They contend that the owners of industry control most of the nation's press, and thus are in a powerful position to influence the entire public, including workers. It is argued, therefore, that the Wagner Act, in its present form, is needed to offset the powerful influence of the owning classes.

Congress will consider these conflicting points of view during its study of the Wagner Act. In its consideration of labor problems, however, it will not confine itself to that law. The fact will be kept in mind that the Wagner Act does not provide machinery for the settlement of industrial disputes. It establishes a procedure by which these disputes may be discussed and negotiated by unions and management. But if these two groups do not settle their differences by negotiation, and if strikes are threatened, this law does not furnish any means by which the strikes may be prevented.

It may be expected, therefore, that Congress will take up the problem of preventing strikes in important industries. One plan that is certain to receive attention again is that of providing "cooling-off" periods when strikes are threatened.

If such a plan is adopted, a union will be prohibited from declaring a strike immediately when a dispute

arises. It will be obliged to wait for a certain time—probably from 30 to 60 days—before taking action. Those who advocate such a course think that, in many cases, the workers and employers would come to terms during the cooling-off period and strikes would thus be avoided.

It is not at all certain, however, that this would happen. The cooling-off plan is in effect in the railway industry, but it did not prevent the calling of a strike last spring. After notice had been given that a strike would be called, the workers and companies did not reach an agreement. They merely waited until the cooling-off period was over and then the strike occurred. On the other hand, the number of railway strikes has been comparatively small.

Most labor unions oppose the cooling-off plan. They say that it weakens their position; that they are more likely to succeed if they can take quick action after a dispute arises. Supporters of this plan, therefore, will meet serious opposition from labor.

Other measures now being prepared for the consideration of Congress call for the outright prohibition of strikes in the so-called public utility industries, such as those which provide gas and electricity. A strike which stops the production and distribution of gas and electricity can quickly bring disaster to a community. Many believe that the people should be protected from public utility strikes.

Other Essential Industries

Certain other industries, such as steel, coal, and transportation, furnish goods and services which are absolutely essential to the national welfare. Disaster may come to the nation if such industries as these cease operation for any length of time because of strikes. Bills will be introduced in Congress to prohibit strikes in these industries as well as the public utility field. It will be argued that disputes in such industries should be settled by arbitration, and that the parties to these disputes should be forced to accept the settlement decided upon by arbitration boards or courts.

When compulsory arbitration proposals have been made in the past, they have been strongly opposed by both labor and business leaders. Both sides have been unwilling to give up their freedom of action. Their opposition is expected to continue.

SMILES

"My boy, when I see how you spend it, I'm afraid that you don't know the value of money."

"Sure I do. It's just about half of what it was a few years ago."

★ ★ ★

A Hollywood producer received a story called "The Optimist." He called his staff together and said, "Gentlemen, this title must be changed to something simpler. We're intelligent and know what an optimist is, but how many other people will know it's an eye doctor?"



A small girl at the zoo asked why the giraffe had such a long neck.

"Well," said the keeper, "he really needs a long neck because his head is so far away from his body."

★ ★ ★

Definitions: Propaganda is the other side's case put so convincingly that it annoys you.

An exclamation point is a period that has blown its top.

★ ★ ★

The saleslady gushed: "This hat makes you look 10 years younger, madam!"

"Then I don't want it," retorted the customer, "I can't afford to put on 10 years every time I take off my hat!"

★ ★ ★

"Many birds sing without opening their bills," says a naturalist. Maybe we'd feel more like singing if we didn't open ours.

★ ★ ★

A customer went into the grocery store and asked the price of a peach.

"Fifteen cents," said the clerk.
The customer handed him two dimes. "Keep the change," he said. "I stepped on a grape as I came in."

Weekly Digest of Fact and Opinion

(The opinions quoted or summarized on this page are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

"The Shame of Berlin," by Frederick Kuh, Washington Post.

American, British, Russian, French, and other Allied officials in Berlin today live in the most extravagant luxury possible. While the Germans go hungry and occupation soldiers get along on plain fare, these officials dine in shameless splendor, and live in mansions attended by servants.

Many will wonder about the effect of this spectacle on the Germans. Whether this spectacle is bad for the Germans may be a topic of indifference to some. But it is definitely not what is meant by "reeducation."

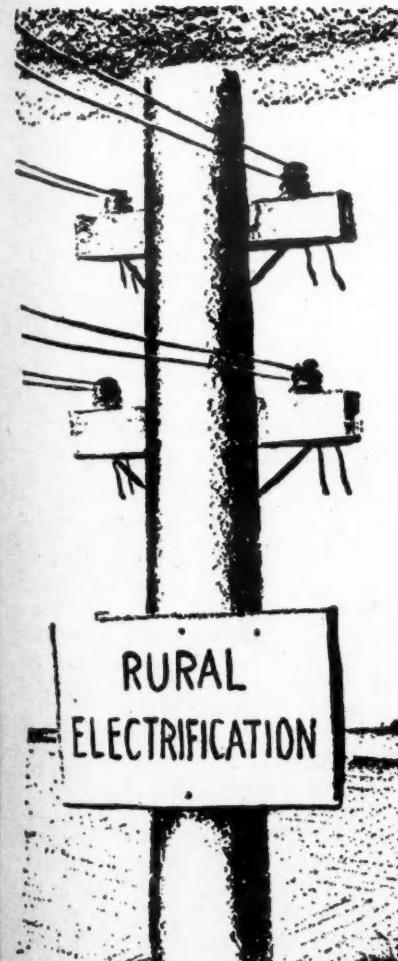
Even the most confirmed enemy of the Germans might wonder about how these practices accord with Allied war aims. Might it not be better to give a little more food to Berlin school children than to heap high the plates of men who are too sated to eat more?

"Behind the Food Fight," by Edgar Ansel Mowrer, New York Post.

As the time for closing down the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration draws near, people all over the world are asking: What next? How will the hungry be fed once UNRRA's operations stop?

Fiorello H. LaGuardia, UNRRA Director General, thinks another United Nations agency should take over. Our State Department, however, is cool to the idea of further international relief action. Department officials say that the job can be done better if countries with surplus supplies deal directly with needy nations.

Some people fear that if each



Let's keep extending it!

The extension of electricity to the nation's farms has been one of the important developments of recent years, but there are still a great many farms which do not have this service. Plans are being made to continue the progress in this direction.

CANADA'S MAIN SOURCES OF SUPPLY

CANADA BOUGHT FROM BRITISH ISLES

1896	██████████
1916	██████████
1926	██████████
1932	██████████
1938	██████████

FROM UNITED STATES

1896	██████████
1916	██████████
1926	██████████
1932	██████████
1938	██████████

EACH CRATE REPRESENTS 10% OF CANADA'S IMPORTS

WE HAVE LONG BEEN HER CHIEF CUSTOMER

CANADA SOLD TO BRITISH ISLES

1896	██████████
1916	██████████
1926	██████████
1932	██████████
1940	██████████

TO UNITED STATES

1896	██████████
1916	██████████
1926	██████████
1932	██████████
1940	██████████

EACH CRATE REPRESENTS 10% OF CANADA'S EXPORTS

CHARTS FROM "CANADA, OUR DOMINION NEIGHBOR," HEADLINE BOOK, FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION

THE UNITED STATES carries on a large trade with Canada and, in addition, many American-owned factories operate there

country handles relief on an individual basis, food will become a political weapon. It is said that governments will not give where the need is greatest but will withhold relief from all countries whose political systems they disapprove.

LaGuardia supports his demand for a new UN relief agency by pointing to the many international agencies this country does support. We urge international action to control atomic energy, to write peace treaties, to arrange world trade, and to regulate aviation, he says. Why not international action to provide world relief?

"German Scientists, Imported by Army, Ready for Jobs in U. S. Industry," PM.

Many German scientists who came to America shortly after the war to do research work for the United States Army will soon be allowed to seek permits to stay here permanently. More than 250 of them have been in the United States. Many have been working at the White Sands, New Mexico, rocket-testing grounds. Others have been at Wright Field, Ohio, working on jet-propulsion and other aviation projects.

Our officials estimate that these scientists have saved us from two to ten years in rocket research. Some of them have developed for us such items as a jet-propelled helicopter and a new type of parachute.

The Army intends to bring more German scientists to this country in the near future. But many of the first group that came have already furnished all the help which the Army expected of them. If they wish to stay here, they will soon be released to take jobs with private industry, research laboratories, and universities.

"New Era in Farm Living," editorial, New York Times.

Electricity is opening a new era of comfort and prosperity for the American farmer. Today more than half of the nation's 6,500,000 farms have

electricity. Both private companies and the government's Rural Electrification Administration are starting new programs to extend power lines to farm areas which are still unserviced.

Electricity can revolutionize farm life. Electric motors mean power for carrying water to homes and farm buildings; they mean more efficient management of farm chores and household tasks. All this will not only make the farmer's life more pleasant but also encourage his children to stay on the farm.

Past conditions have caused a large percentage of farm youths to migrate to the cities as soon as possible. As short a time ago as 1940, only 31 per cent of farms had electricity; 18 per cent had running water; 44 per cent had mechanical refrigerators; 60 per cent were equipped with bathtubs; and 25 per cent had telephones.

Under such conditions, it is not surprising that life in the city looked attractive to young farmers. Now that more and more farms will have city conveniences, however, rural youth is expected to be more content.

"Investments Over the Border," by James Montagnes, Christian Science Monitor.

Since the end of the war, American industry has been "invading" Canada on a large scale. All kinds of products from toys to chemicals, from paper to scientific instruments, are coming off the assembly lines of new American plants north of the border. The value of American factories in Canada today is well above 5 billion dollars.

American industrialists go to Canada for many reasons. Some simply want to supply the Canadian market and sell to other parts of the British Commonwealth under the favorable British tariff system. Others are attracted by the fact that labor-management relations are better in Canada than here.

Canada also has tremendous resources to offer the industrialist. Besides her rich supplies of timber and minerals, she has well developed—and inexpensive—hydroelectric power. Furthermore, her standard of living is almost as high as ours.

"The Comeback of the Bison," by Newton B. Drury, Rotarian.

As late as 1870, travelers along the Arkansas River reported that for 200 miles they passed through unbroken buffalo herds as closely massed as cattle herded for round-up. Less than 25 years later, the buffalo was almost extinct. Of the 50 million bison which

had once thundered over the American prairie, no more than 25 could be found.

Today, 50 years later, the National Park Service disposes of surplus buffaloes from its Yellowstone Park herds to needy Indians on reservations. A census of the present buffalo population would probably number more than 30,000. That's a 3,000 per cent increase in about 50 years—probably a record for any species and certainly a tribute to the conservationists who saved the buffalo from extinction just in time.

"India and Colonialism," editorial, Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Hindu-Moslem clashes still stand in the way of peace and freedom for India. To some people, this means that the Indian people are incapable of self-rule—that they would be better off under the continued control of foreign powers.

But is this what the present situation means? An equally reasonable interpretation is that it would never have come about if European rule had been really good for India. The Indians should have had more political training in order to be able to look after their own interests properly.

The West should not be too quick to condemn the mistakes of colonial peoples as they try to learn how to govern themselves. After all, nearly every nation in the world went through periods of violence in its early days. And even now, conflict has not been eliminated from the Western world. We should be tolerant and help the colonial peoples in every possible way instead of using their mistakes as excuses for maintaining the empire system.

References on Major Articles

Palestine

"Should Palestine Become the Jewish Homeland?" by Marie Syrkin and Khalil Totah, Forum, June 1946. A pro-and-con discussion.

"Land of Curfews and Barbed Wire," by Julian Meltzer, New York Times Magazine, November 3, 1946. Glimpses of life in Palestine.

Labor Relations

"What Can We Do About Strikes?" by Merlin Pitzele, Saturday Evening Post, September 7, 1946. Proposing a system for compulsory arbitration of labor disputes.

Fortune, November 1946. This issue contains numerous editorials and articles explaining the current labor situation and suggesting remedies.

The Story of the Week

The Year 1946

As 1946 approaches its conclusion, it is interesting to look back over the record and recall what it brought us.

The first full year after the defeat of Germany was naturally a time of reorganizing and rebuilding. The chief Nazi war criminals were tried and punished, and the first work was done on the peace treaties.

Shortages of food, fuel, and shelter slowed recovery in Europe and Asia, but remarkable progress was made in spite of everything. In both India and the Netherlands East Indies, the people were granted a larger measure of self-government, and the Philippine Islands became an independent republic.

Our country returned to civilian life the great majority of its fighting men, and in most cases they went back to work or to school without running into any serious difficulties except one—finding a place to live. Though a million new homes were partially or completely built in 1946, housing continued to be one of the nation's greatest problems.

Strikes were another thorny problem. This year was the worst in history for industrial disputes. Work stoppages—especially those in coal, steel, and shipping—helped to keep goods scarce and prices high. People were dissatisfied, and when the November elections came the Democrats had their first big defeat since they came into power in 1932. Control of both houses of Congress passed to the Republicans.

The lessons of the atomic bomb were closely studied in 1946. Tests were made by exploding bombs over and just under the water, and members of the United Nations discussed ways to prevent atomic warfare. A number of UN meetings took place during the year, including the first meeting of the General Assembly to be held in the United States.

Is the Press Fair?

"Do you think the newspapers you read generally make Russia look better or worse than she really is?" This question was addressed recently to

people in different walks of life by the National Opinion Research Center of the University of Denver.

Two out of five persons, on the average, said they thought the newspapers make Russia appear to be worse than she really is; one in five thought their papers make that country look better than it is; one thought the papers give a fair picture; and one had no opinion on the subject.

The poll found that the more privileged groups—those in the higher income brackets and those with the most education—are more likely to think Russia is misrepresented than are the lower income groups. Veterans are more inclined to feel that our newspapers are prejudiced on this subject than are non-veterans.

An informal survey on this question among your friends and classmates might show interesting results. Ask them whether, from their reading of the newspapers, they think the American press is presenting a fair picture of Russia.

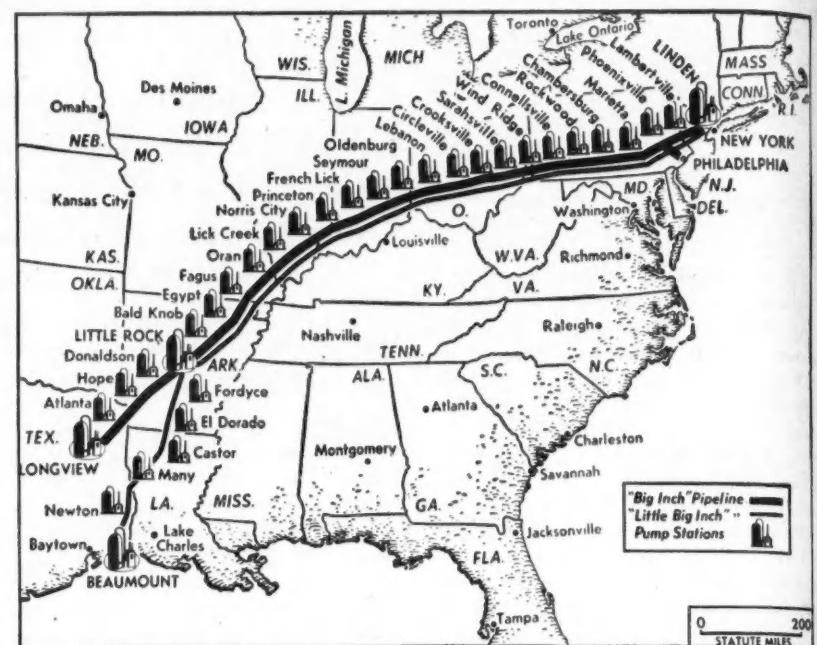
New English Words

No one knows better than a teenager that English, as we Americans speak it, is a changing language. What the teen-ager may not know, however, is that the jive-talk of today will probably be the accepted phrase tomorrow.

Merriam-Webster, publishers of Webster's Dictionary, has its scouts constantly on the lookout for new words. When one is found, the word and its meaning are recorded on a card. If the word is reported often enough and the editors of the dictionary think it will become a permanent part of our vocabulary, they put it in the New Words Section at the front of the dictionary. Later on, when the dictionary is revised, the word may go back into the regular section.

Jitterbug, slap-happy, juke box, and gremlin are among the words that have made their way into the New Words Section in recent years. Nylon, electronics, rip cord, and Flying Fortress are others.

New words spring up when a new custom or a new product comes along and needs a name, or when someone



BIG INCH AND LITTLE INCH—government-built pipelines extending from the rich oil and natural gas fields of the Southwest to the industrial centers of the East

with a flair for language hits upon an expressive phrase for a new idea. The war brought hundreds of new words, many of them associated with airplanes and bombing. Swing music has added new terms to the popular vocabulary—and Webster has dignified them with precise meanings. Science is constantly giving us new phrases.

South Africa Accused

One dispute now before the United Nations concerns treatment of about 250,000 people in South Africa whose forefathers went there from India many years ago to work in mines, on railroads, and on plantations. Now these Indians complain that they are treated as "inferiors" and are not given enough representation in the government. Worst of all, they say, is a recent law establishing certain limited areas in which they must live.

India is making an effort to help these people. She wants the General Assembly to urge South Africa to give Indian residents more rights. The Assembly has agreed to look into the problem.

South Africa holds that her treatment of the Indians, most of whom either were born in Africa or went there more than 30 years ago, is purely a home issue and no business of the United Nations. India, however, says that in the years just after 1860, when South Africa was anxious to have Indians come there and work, promises were made that they would eventually get full citizenship rights. These promises, say Indian representatives, constituted treaties which the United Nations should take steps to enforce.

When the issue came before the UN, the big question was whether it should be handled by the World Court or the General Assembly. The Assembly finally took charge, and asked both South Africa and India to present their cases again when the Assembly meets in 1947. That body plans to adjourn before Christmas.

Some observers think that, if this dispute results in better treatment for the Indians of South Africa, racial minorities in other parts of the world may feel encouraged to seek UN aid.

Davis Cup Matches

Late this month, in the bright sunshine of an Australian summer, "Aussie" and American tennis teams will meet on the courts of Melbourne. They will play for the Davis Cup, the outstanding tennis trophy of the world.

In 1900 Dwight Davis, wealthy businessman who later became Secretary of War, presented the U. S. Lawn Tennis Association with this handsome silver bowl, 13 inches high and 18 across. Offered for international competition, it took the fancy of the tennis world at once. By 1935 both bowl and tray were covered with the names and records of winning teams.

The United States has won the cup 12 times, England nine, Australia seven, and France six. At the outbreak of World War II, it was in the hands of the Australians, and not until this year did other nations have an opportunity to try for it again.

In the eliminations, the United States beat the Philippines, Canada, and Mexico, while Sweden won a similar victory in Europe. Americans de-



THE BELL XS-1 is the Army's first rocket-propelled plane. It is not a military plane, but is a flying research laboratory designed to test flying conditions at high altitudes and at faster speeds than any on record.

AAF FROM ACME

feated the Swedes at Forest Hills, New York, and last month the United States team flew to Australia for the championship matches. Chief among the team members were Billy Talbert, Gardner Mulloy, Tom Brown, Bob Falkenburg, and the new national champion, Jack Kramer.

"I Want to Help . . ."

Probably the youngest of Secretary of State Byrnes' advisers is Michelle Etcheverry, a 7-year-old girl who lives in New York City. When her father was killed in the war, Michelle was broken hearted and wanted to know why there had to be wars. Her mother explained the situation as best she could, and told her that everyone should work to insure peace.

Since then, little Michelle has become more and more interested in what goes on in this world of ours. Her mother explains the day-by-day news developments to her.

Recently Michelle wrote to Secretary Byrnes saying, "I want to help you and Mr. Molotov settle the Trieste problem . . ." Her suggestion was that the people of Trieste be allowed to choose their government from candidates picked by the United Nations.

What she actually suggested, however, is not so important. The significant fact is that, at seven, Michelle has learned the basic lesson of citizenship in a democracy—she has learned that each of us must know what is going on, and that we must be willing to take an active part in helping to solve world problems.

Had more people done this in the 1920's and 1930's and assumed their duties of citizenship, the tragedy that



MICHELLE ETCHEVERRY, whose story is told elsewhere on this page

taught Michelle her lesson might not have happened. We might never have had World War II, and Michelle's father might still be living. It is to be hoped that young Americans of today will not wait to learn this lesson the tragic way, but instead that they will lose no time in studying the causes of war and doing everything they can to help eliminate them.

Story of Macedonia

As Greek government troops still vainly try to wipe out the armed bands which oppose them in the mountains, it becomes clear that this struggle is the latest chapter in the long, sad history of Macedonia. This unhappy land has not been an independent nation since the time of Alexander the Great, more than 2,000 years ago, and today it is divided among Yugoslavia, Greece, and Bulgaria. It is inhabited by Serbs, Albanians, Greeks, Bulgars, and Turks.



THE REGION KNOWN as Macedonia includes portions of three countries

Many Macedonians have always been willing to fight for independence, and since the majority are Slavic, like the Bulgarians and the Yugoslavs, they quarrel most bitterly with the Greeks. At present Albania, Yugoslavia, and Bulgaria are under the influence of Russia, which would very much like to have a naval base on the Aegean Sea. The Greeks believe that these Slavic countries want to establish an "independent" Macedonia which will at once become another friend of Russia's and will then, at her request, demand the Greek seaport of Salonika.

Greece has told the United Nations that her neighbors to the north are aiding the "rebels" in Greek Macedonia. The nations accused have replied with charges that Greek troops and planes have been crossing their borders without permission. Here is another explosive problem for the UN.

What Is a Billion?

No one can follow the activities of the U. S. government without frequently running across figures of billions of dollars. Usually you read these figures without stopping to think just what they mean. Perhaps some examples of what a billion dollars represents will help you to understand and appreciate this vast sum.

Suppose you had a billion dollars in one dollar bills. How long would it take you to count it, saying that you count one per second, eight hours a day, and five days a week? At this rate you could count \$144,000 each week. It would take you 132 years and 11 weeks to count your billion dollars.

A dollar bill is six and one-eighth inches long. How far would your billion dollars reach if you placed all of them end to end? The answer is 96,690 miles—nearly four times around the earth at the equator.

Suppose, for the sake of this discussion, that all families lived on \$2,500 a year. Assuming an average of four persons per family, how large a city would a billion dollars support for a year? The answer is 400,000 families, or 1,600,000 persons—a city the size of Los Angeles or Detroit.

If, however, a billion dollars were divided equally among all the American people, each person would get only \$7.15. That is why a country with as large a population as ours carries on business and government activities in terms of many billions of dollars each

year. Modern wars, moreover, require the spending of fantastic sums of money.

Welsh Speak Out

The Welsh have always loved freedom, and even today they sometimes show that they are not entirely happy about being governed from London almost as though they were a part of England. Their country, which is a little smaller than New Jersey, is a land of rough, craggy hills, deep valleys, and beautiful lakes.

In the year 1282, Edward I of England finally succeeded in conquering the Welsh. To please them, he called his son "Prince of Wales," a title which is now always given to the eldest son of the King of England. But the Welsh were not easily satisfied, and rebellion after rebellion followed. About 400 years ago, England granted Wales the right to send representatives to the British Parliament, and the country quieted down.

At present three-fourths of the 2,500,000 Welsh people live in the mining districts of South Wales, where wages are low and working conditions are bad. The Welsh feel that the British government doesn't take enough interest in the troubles of these people, and recently they asked that a separate government department, headed by a member of the Cabinet, be set up to handle Welsh affairs. A committee is studying the problem.

Something to Think About

Many observers are convinced that our large-scale industrial warfare in the past year and a half has done much to weaken the position of democracy and promote the interests of communism throughout the world. Democratic governments in war-torn Western Europe, for instance, cannot survive unless they can keep their people supplied with the necessities of life. They must keep the factories operating, and the railroads going.

In doing these things, they need our help. Many of their industries, for example, have been depending, since the war, upon coal from the United States. By the end of last summer we were sending Europe more than 2 million tons of coal a month.

If, as a result of our industrial strife, factories in other countries must close, there is danger that the people will blame democracy for their troubles and turn to communism.

WEEK'S PERSONALITY

"Joe" Martin, Jr.

JOSEPH MARTIN, Jr., of Massachusetts, who is expected to become the next Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives, has served in that body for more than 20 years. He began to take an important place among House Republicans in the early 1930's.

Now Martin is a thoroughly experienced politician. Since 1939 he has been Leader of his party in the House. In that position he was quite successful in getting the different Republican factions to work together as a determined group in opposition to the Democratic majority. In the 1940 Presidential race, he was campaign manager for Wendell Willkie, Republican candidate.

Martin, whose father was a blacksmith in North Attleboro, Massachusetts, went to work selling newspapers at the age of six. After his graduation from high school he was offered a scholarship to Dartmouth, but he refused it and got a job as a newspaper reporter. Five years later he bought a newspaper in North Attleboro, thus becoming a publisher at the age of 24.

His first political job was in the Massachusetts legislature, to which he was elected in 1912. There, as well as later in Congress, he displayed great ability as an organizer.

Representative Martin strongly opposed most of the New Deal legislation passed while Roosevelt was President. He can be expected to use his influence for less government control of industry, for reduced government spending and activity, and for lower taxes on incomes and business profits.

If Martin becomes Speaker of the House, he will face grave responsibilities. While Congress is controlled by the Republicans and the President is a Democrat, we can expect the office of Speaker to be even more influential than usual. The Republicans, not having control of the Presidency, will count largely upon their party leaders in Congress for guidance.

While in school, Martin was an outstanding baseball player. Attending baseball games is still one of his favorite amusements. He also enjoys reading history and biography. He works hard and lives a very quiet life at a small hotel near the White House.



Joseph Martin, Jr.

Palestine

(Concluded from page 1)

demonstrations on all sides. Outlaw groups have sprung up among both Jews and Arabs. The British, for their part, have dealt sternly with the situation. The Palestinian coast has been blockaded, and Jews found trying to come in illegally are being shipped to internment camps on the nearby island of Cyprus. Hundreds of terrorists have been imprisoned.

The British have put special committees to work in the effort to solve this problem, and they have held conferences with Jewish and Arab leaders. Various compromise plans have been offered. It has been suggested that only limited numbers of Jews be admitted to Palestine each year. Another proposal is to divide the country into three sections—one to be controlled by the Arabs, another by the Jews, and the third section, mostly desert land, to be used by the British for military purposes.

Jewish leaders have indicated that they might accept the partition plan, but the Arabs violently oppose it.

President Truman has suggested that all countries, including the United States and Palestine, cooperate in providing new homes for the large numbers of Jewish refugees now in Europe. Whether a program of this kind will be carried out remains to be seen.

Meanwhile the tragedy of the homeless and long-suffering Jewish people in Europe continues to face the world. Moreover, the conflict between the Arabs and Jews in Palestine is creating an increasingly serious problem.

Arab Defense

The Arabs, in defending their position in this controversy, contend that Palestine is rightfully theirs. Located in the midst of the Arab world, it has been peopled mainly by Arabs for hundreds of years. It first passed into Moslem hands in the seventh century and has been dominated by Moslem power right up to modern times.

What the Arabs want is a Palestine "free of all foreign influence—British as well as Jewish." They want to be independent so that they can join the neighboring states which are working



TEL AVIV IS PALESTINE'S LARGEST CITY. It is a modern, industrial metropolis of 150,000 inhabitants.

for a restoration of Arab greatness through the Arab League.

The Arabs say also that the land and resources of Palestine cannot support an enlarged population. They fear that if more Jews come in, they may crowd out the Arabs and deprive them of their livelihood.

The Jews answer that they have a stronger claim to Palestine than the Arabs. They point out that the country was theirs long before the Arabs took it over.

They argue that the Arabs have no reason to fear that they will be dominated by the Jews. In Palestine today, Arabs outnumber the Jews two to one. Furthermore, the Arabs have most of the richest land. The Jewish people in that country have reclaimed unused desert land and they support themselves by farming these areas. The Arabs, it is claimed, have benefited from Jewish skill and industry in developing Palestine. General standards of living have been raised, primarily through Jewish effort.

Appealing to the rest of the world for a place of refuge in Palestine, the Jews recall their wartime sufferings. Axis rule in Europe took a terrible toll of Jewish lives. For this reason, the Jews feel that they deserve special consideration. They also point to the fact that both Britain and the United States have many times encouraged them to look to Palestine as a national homeland.

Britain's problem in Palestine would be hard enough if she had to do nothing more than decide between these two sets of claims. But there are other angles to the situation. What happens in Palestine may have important consequences for all nations of the world.

Britain herself has a tremendous stake in Palestine. For one thing, she needs it as a base to protect her sea lanes through the Mediterranean to the Far East. Now that the British have agreed to withdraw their troops from Egypt, Palestine is doubly important for the protection of the Suez Canal.

Britain, moreover, values Palestine as an outpost in the Arab world. The British are vitally interested in the rich petroleum deposits of the Middle East. They are also deeply concerned about the strategic land, sea, and air routes which pass through and over the Arab states.

In years past, Britain dominated many Arab states, but today her influence has waned. A new, nationalistic spirit has flamed up among the Arabs. Their decision to band together in the Arab League shows the strength of their determination to be on their

own in managing Arabian affairs.

The Russians present another challenge to Britain's position in the Middle East. Russia's ambitions there are well known. She has made no secret of the fact that she wants a share of the oil riches scattered through the Arab states. It is also widely believed that she wants to extend her political influence in this region.

This explains why Britain, in spite of her sympathy for Europe's suffering Jews, has done so much to pacify the Arabs in Palestine. Her leaders, rightly or wrongly, feel that both England and the Jewish people in Palestine stand to suffer if patience is not used in finding an answer to this problem which will prevent a major Arab uprising.

The United States is deeply sympathetic with the plight of the Jews, and our officials have repeatedly urged Britain to let more of them into Palestine. Yet our government does not want to see Russia become too strong in the Middle East at the expense of Britain and the United States. This is why many Americans feel that we should not force England into a position which would inflame the Arab world against the West.

Some observers feel that the only satisfactory solution of the Palestine dispute would be to make this small but important land a United Nations responsibility—to let the great powers

run it on a joint trusteeship basis. It is argued that the Arabs and Jews would have to fall in line if the great powers presented a solid front on the Palestine issue. Then too, it is claimed, there would be less rivalry among the three major powers—Britain, Russia, and the United States—if they shared this responsibility.

Opponents' Viewpoint

Opponents of this plan say it would simply stir up new quarrels in the UN. They point out that the great powers have not yet succeeded in running a foreign territory cooperatively. If they were to tackle Palestine, it is said, there would be constant wrangling and playing for advantage among them. Russia, in the attempt to gain favor with the Arab world, would probably take a strong stand in the UN against further Jewish migration to Palestine. This action would pit the British and Americans on the spot, and would probably prevent the working out of a just solution of the problem within the UN.

Critics of this point of view reply that it would be better for the major powers to fight out their differences over Palestine *inside* the UN rather than *outside*. Britain, it is said, should favor such a plan, for she would gain by freeing herself of the whole responsibility for working out a settlement of this thorny problem.

Our Readers Say—

Our population is in danger of becoming stationary, and when this happens our country may decline as a world power. As I see it, we need to improve our immigration laws, and to improve our treatment of immigrants after they come here. Our immigration laws should admit people on the basis of individual worth, and not on their nationality, color or creed. Then after an immigrant is admitted, we should see that he gets the best education this land of opportunity can provide.

MARY LOU McWILLIAMS,
Bucklin, Missouri.

We do not agree with your article on "Is Communism a Menace?" In the first place it does not promote friendly relations between Russia and the United States for our papers to print articles like this. In the second place, if this is a free country, communism should have the right to grow. Certainly it isn't democratic to prohibit communism!

We want Russia and the United States to get along together, and we do not think this article will help.

JEWELL SIGGINS AND
SAM KEASBEY,
Muncie, Indiana.

(Editor's note: Our article did not suggest the outlawing of communism or

the denying of free speech to the Communists. It did call upon Americans to be on guard against this movement which, if it came to power, would destroy democracy and do away with the political freedom which Communists insist upon enjoying under our democratic government. THE AMERICAN OBSERVER has stood consistently for cooperation between the United States and Russia in working toward peace, and it has not advocated American interference with communism in Russia.)

In your recent article entitled "Two Party Deadlock May Cripple U. S. Law-making" it was said that opponents of parliamentary government think our system is more stable than the British. They say there is not often a deadlock between the President and Congress.

I think this will be one of the times when there will be a deadlock. If the President and Congress cannot agree, no laws will be made. Unless they show that they can agree, I think the British system should be adopted. I do not mean there should be an election every time there is a disagreement, but I think we would get farther if the President and Congress knew that if they did not work together, they would have to take their case to the people for a vote.

CONSTANCE BECKER,
Paterson, New Jersey.



Historical Backgrounds

By David S. Muzzey

AS this column pointed out last week, the ideal of a free press has made steady progress in America. Some observers today believe, however, that new dangers now threaten this important civil liberty. They feel that we cannot safely consider the fight for freedom of the press as having been completely won.

A book on this subject appeared some months ago with the title, *The First Freedom*. The author, Morris Ernst, contends that we have less freedom of the press now than we had a generation ago, because we have fewer independent newspapers than formerly. Towns and cities which once had three or four different newspapers now have only one. Newspaper readers in these communities frequently are not presented with all sides of controversial issues, because they read only one newspaper. Its owner may refuse to publish facts or opinions which do not correspond with his views.

Frequently, also, the only radio station in the town is owned by the newspaper, and news reports on the air are controlled in the same way as those which are printed in the paper.

Why has this occurred? Why are there fewer newspapers now than there were 50 years ago? One reason is that publishing a modern newspaper requires a great deal of money. The publisher must employ a large staff of reporters, printers, and distributors, and must buy expensive printing presses. He must subscribe for national and foreign news services and special features. For this reason, numerous small newspapers have gone out of business in recent years.

Many observers do not agree with Mr. Ernst that fewer newspapers result in less freedom of the press. The large papers, it is pointed out, are supplied by great news-gathering agencies such as the Associated Press, United Press, and International News Service which report news from all parts of the world. Also, many newspapers make it a practice to have conservative and liberal columnists express their conflicting views on the same page.

Regardless of which side is right in this controversy over how free our press is, good advice to students is to read more than one newspaper and listen to more than one radio news broadcast. Two people observing the same event will often report it differently. Two newspapers will often present conflicting "facts" and state different opinions about the same news. It is only by getting a variety of facts and opinions that we can benefit fully from the free press which we enjoy.

Pronunciations

Avila Camacho—uh bee' luuh kuh mah' cho ('u's as in fun)
Haifa—hy' fuh ('u as in fun)
Laredo—luh ray' doe
Miguel Aleman—mee gel' ah lay mon' (g as in get; mon as in monster)
Tel Aviv—tell' uh veev'



New Government in Mexico

President Aleman Seeks to Advance Living Standards Through Aid to Agriculture and Industry

MEXICO, in recent years, has done much to wipe out the old tradition that her government is run "by bullets instead of ballots." Her recent presidential election was one of the most peaceful in history. The new President is Miguel Aleman.

Though President Aleman has childhood memories of getting cartridges from Mexican soldiers and taking them to his father, a revolutionary general, his adult career has been nonmilitary. A lawyer by profession, he has held posts as judge, senator, governor of Vera Cruz, and member of the national cabinet.

During his recent presidential campaign, Aleman talked with people to find out what they were expecting of their government. Those discussions emphasized to him some problems which, as President, he must face. Primarily, Mexico needs to improve the living conditions of her farmers, stimulate industry and transportation, and raise the national standards of education and health.

The majority of Mexican farmers, who make up about two-thirds of the nation's 20 million people, live in poverty. Many years ago most of them had no land of their own, but instead worked almost as slaves on the huge estates of wealthy land-owners. In 1911, however, the government started to break up the big farms and distribute the land to those who work on it. Some large estates still exist, but about half of the peasants now either have land of their own or work on cooperative farms.

Simply turning land over to the farm laborers, however, has not freed them from poverty. Poor land in many places, and crude farming methods, combine to make very poor crop yields. Some Mexican farmers, for instance, plant their crops by punching holes in the ground with sticks, dropping the seed in, and then tramping it down. President Aleman hopes, that during the six years of his administration, the Mexican government can help farmers to get better equipment and learn better methods.

He hopes also that manufacturing

industries, which already are making a good beginning around such cities as Monterrey, Mexico City, and Vera Cruz, can be developed further. Industrial workers, who strongly support Aleman, expect him to sponsor measures for their welfare.

Mexico has a large mineral industry, particularly in silver, copper, and petroleum. Although many mines are controlled by foreign corporations, oil fields have been purchased from foreign owners and are being operated by the government. One of Aleman's big problems is to make the government-controlled oil industry operate more efficiently.

The nation needs more highways, motor vehicles, and railroads. Only with these can many isolated communities be helped to find better markets for their goods, encouraged to produce more, and enabled to buy more from the outside world.

In recent years the Mexican government has been making a great effort to improve standards of education. Large numbers of people, particularly in remote rural areas, have been unable to read and write.

Not long ago Avila Camacho, the previous President, sponsored a campaign in which each person who could read was expected to teach someone who could not. His government also worked at the task of providing more and better schools for Mexico. This program is expected to be carried forward by the new Mexican leaders.



Miguel Aleman

Straight Thinking

By Anne Crutcher

ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT'S book, *As He Saw It*, has come in for a lot of criticism since its publication a few months ago. For one thing, many people question the accuracy of the statements which the author says his father made to him.

Critics of the book point out that many of the most important remarks credited to the late President are said to have been made in private conversations. No one but Elliott Roosevelt heard them, it is said, and the reader has no way of knowing whether he remembered them correctly.

This is a reasonable type of criticism. Everyone's memory plays tricks on him occasionally. Furthermore, people usually remember what fits best with their own ideas. *As He Saw It* is a very personal record, and it is quite possible that the picture it presents has been colored by the author's views.

Columnists Joseph and Stewart Alsop recently offered another criticism of the book. They said that when Roosevelt first wrote it, it was too poorly organized for publication. Then, their story goes, Roosevelt hired a ghost writer. The ghost writer, "a smart party-liner, reputedly of Hollywood origin," changed the whole book to fit in with the Communist Party line. The Alsops say they obtained this information about the book from "a well-authenticated report."



This is by no means a reliable kind of criticism. The Alsops make no attempt to back up their statements with evidence. If they were presenting such charges in a law court, the judge would insist on knowing who issued the "well-authenticated report," who the ghost writer is, and what evidence is available to prove he is a Communist.

Without the answers to these questions, no judge would give serious consideration to the Alsops' accusations. The straight thinker will not accept them at face value either. He will question charges made against any book, article, or person unless the charges are based on evidence or upon sources which are definitely named.

Your Vocabulary

In each of the following sentences, match the italicized word with the word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Turn to page 8, column 4, for correct answers.

1. The columnist's report was of *dubious* value. (a) tremendous (b) doubtful (c) unquestionable (d) slight.
2. The politician's speech was *redundant*. (a) repetitious (b) memorable (c) revealing (d) impressive.
3. Ginger ale is an *effervescent* beverage. (a) popular (b) sweet (c) bubbling (d) harmless.
4. The Arabs are *intransigent* in opposing Jewish immigration to Palestine. (a) beginner (b) bungler (c) expert (d) fanatic.
5. Some people say a high wind is the *precursor* of rain. (a) forerunner (b) aftermath (c) accompaniment (d) cause.
6. Bill was *discomfited* by his brother's remarks. (a) hurt (b) annoyed (c) puzzled (d) embarrassed.
7. In some countries, the law *proscribes* free speech. (a) encourages (b) permits (c) ignores (d) prohibits.
8. The new employee seems to be a *tyro* at this work. (a) beginner (b) bungler (c) expert (d) fanatic.

Careers for Tomorrow - - The Field of Law

PREDICTIONS of the possibilities for future employment are more difficult in the field of law perhaps than in any other field. During the war few students were graduated from law schools, and many young lawyers were in the armed forces. The few beginning lawyers who were available, therefore, had their choice of jobs, and their salaries were high.

Now, however, the young lawyers have returned from military service, and law schools are crowded with students. Established lawyers predict that within two or three years there will be an oversupply of trained men in the profession, and opportunities for employment will decrease.

A high school student who is thinking of a career in law should consider these facts seriously—but he need not let them discourage him too greatly. There will always be a demand for good lawyers, so if you feel, after studying the situation, that you have the necessary qualities to do well at this work, don't let the prospects of overcrowding in this profession deter you.

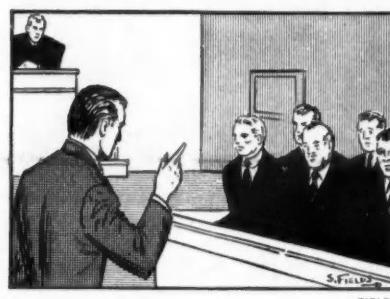
What qualities should a young person have if he wants to be a successful lawyer? First, he must be a good student, and he must like to study. A long period of study is needed to prepare for this profession, and when his training is completed the prospective lawyer must pass the bar examination in the state where he plans to practice. Only half of those who take the bar examinations make a passing grade—this shows why only the best students should consider law as a career.

The second important quality for a lawyer is a forceful personality. One engaged in this work has a much bet-

ter chance of success if he is an effective speaker. Also, he must mix well with people.

Equally as important as these qualities is good character. A lawyer must establish a reputation for unflinching honesty, so that his clients will have complete confidence in him, and his opponents will respect him.

Often young people look upon a career in law as a career in glamour.



They visualize the dramatic courtroom scenes of the movies, and think that is the life they will lead if they become lawyers. Actually much of the lawyer's life is spent at more arduous tasks. He must often work long hours doing research and preparing his arguments.

On the other hand, the lawyer's work is a continuous challenge. Whether he is handling cases for individuals, for corporations, or for the government, the lawyer is constantly pitting his ability against that of other members of his profession.

The period for training for law is long. The better law schools require from two to four years of college work for admission. The legal course itself takes three years.

The average young lawyer must be

prepared to live on slim rations while he is getting a start. Most beginners work in established law offices, doing research and preparing briefs for the senior members of the firm. In the larger cities a few salaries ran as high as \$250 a month before the war. Most salaries of freshmen lawyers, however, were a good deal lower—averaging no more than \$100 a month. Salaries for beginners rose during the war, but as the supply of law school graduates increases, earnings are expected to go down to a certain extent.

Even after they are established, about half of the lawyers of the country make only modest incomes in normal times. The other half, however, have higher incomes than the members of most other professions.

Women have entered law increasingly in recent years, and while it is not an easy career for them, many are successful in it. Those who do make the grade are highly respected.

Legal study, both for men and women, may give a background for work in other fields. Many positions in the government require legal training. Industrial firms, banks, and insurance companies are also finding that a background in law is important for people in administrative positions. So if you take law courses and fail to make the grade, your time has not been wasted. If, after the first year, you are not in the upper half of your class, it would probably be wise for you to drop out, and prepare for some other career.

Information about law schools can be secured from the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, American Bar Association, 1140 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 10, Illinois.

Study Guide

Labor Legislation

1. Why is there unusual interest in labor legislation this winter?
2. What right of workers is protected by the Wagner Act?
3. Give some of the main provisions of this law.
4. What amendments to the Wagner Act are being considered?
5. List the arguments for and against these proposals.
6. What are some of the measures for the prevention of strikes in essential industries which will be debated in Congress this winter?

Discussion

1. Do you or do you not feel that the Wagner Act gives too much power to labor and that it is unfair to employers? Give reasons for your answer.

2. Should a plan of compulsory arbitration be adopted for the settlement of labor disputes in essential industries? Why or why not?

Palestine

1. What is the immediate cause of the struggle in Palestine today?

2. What are several compromise plans which have been suggested in the effort to solve this problem?

3. What claim do the Arabs have to Palestine? Upon what is the Jewish claim based?

4. Why are the British interested in finding a solution to this problem?

5. In what ways do the Jews claim to have improved Palestine?

6. Why do the Arabs oppose further migrations of Jews into the country?

7. What arguments are made by those who want Palestine to be made the responsibility of the United Nations? What are the arguments against this plan?

Discussion

1. Do you think Palestine should be put under the UN, or do you think such a plan would bring only further disagreement among the major powers in the UN? Give reasons.

2. Can you think of any other plan for handling the troublesome situation in Palestine? If so, tell why you think your plan would work.

Miscellaneous

1. Name five of the leading events which took place in 1946.

2. How does a new word make its way into the dictionary?

3. Why are the Indians in South Africa dissatisfied?

4. Tennis teams from what two nations are about to contend for the famous Davis Cup?

5. What complaint do the Greeks make about Macedonia? What do Greece's neighbors say about the trouble in this region?

6. If a billion dollars were divided equally among all the people in the United States, about how much would each person get?

7. What is the chief cause of the recent discontent in Wales?

Discussion

1. Do you think the American press gives an unfair picture of Russia? Explain your answer.

2. Do you think the United Nations General Assembly should handle cases like the complaint of the South African Indians? If not, how do you believe such problems should be solved?

Answers to Vocabulary Test

1. (b) doubtful; 2. (a) repetitious;
3. (c) bubbling; 4. (b) uncompromising; 5. (a) forerunner; 6. (d) embarrassed; 7. (d) prohibits; 8. (a) beginner.

UN Makes Progress Toward Peace

(Concluded from page 1)

the Security Council on any matter involving the enforcement of arms reduction rules.

Now that Russia has joined the other leading nations on the veto question, the prospect for arms reduction is greatly improved. The Security Council can draw up a plan for the prohibition of atomic warfare. It can forbid the manufacture of other destructive weapons. It can make plans for reducing the armed strength of all nations. It can set up an international authority which will send representatives to all the nations to see that the rules are being enforced. After these plans are put into effect the Council can carry on its day-to-day work of supervision and inspection, and no nation can block its activities.

The work of preparing an international arms reduction program is already under way. The United States, Great Britain, Russia, and several other nations have submitted plans for cutting down armaments. Foreign Minister Molotov, in his recent address to the United Nations, said he was willing to put the Soviet plan aside and use the American proposal as a basis for discussion.

The importance of this program can scarcely be overstated. All the nations are heavily burdened by debt. Many of them are obliged to rebuild vast devastated areas. If they could cut down their expense for armaments, they could much more easily meet the costs of reconstruction.



HUDSON IN ERIE DISPATCH-HERALD
The light grows brighter

chief benefit to be derived from cutting armament expenses. If a world-wide program of arms reduction is not adopted, the great nations will compete with each other in an armament race which will inevitably lead to war, and possibly to the destruction of modern civilization. This disaster can be avoided if the nations agree to limit all armaments and to prohibit the use of atomic bombs and other equally destructive implements of warfare.

We must, of course, recognize the fact that the United Nations is only at the beginning of the effort to end the armament race. Many differences of opinion will develop and controversies on certain points will no doubt be bitter. There will be times of discouragement when it will appear that nothing can be achieved, but at least a long step forward has now been taken.

The prospect for peace and for the strengthening of the United Nations is better than it has been, because Russia has recently compromised on a number of issues. She has yielded in large measure to the American and British plan for the governing of Trieste. She has accepted the idea of the Western powers that the Danube river should be internationally controlled. She is withdrawing a large part of her occupation forces from Germany. These developments indicate that a more cooperative spirit may prevail in the work of the United Nations.